AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

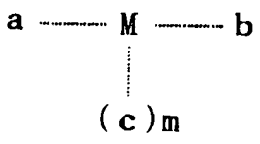
Claims 1 - 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended): The optical recording medium comprising:

a substrate; and

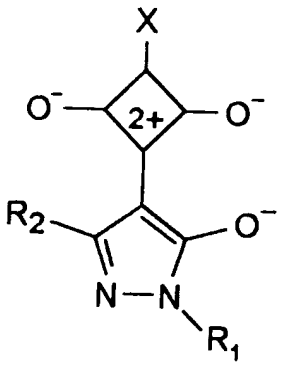
at least one recording layer arranged on or above the substrate,

wherein the recording layer comprises two or more different squarylium-metal chelate compounds represented by following Structural Formula (1):



(1)

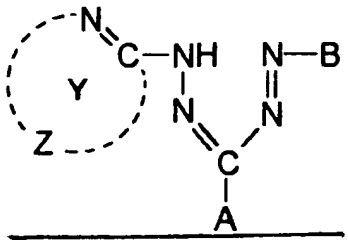
wherein M represents a metal atom capable of coordinating; "a", "b" and "c" each represent a squarylium dye ligand represented by following Structural Formula (2), where "a" is different from "b"; and "c" may be the same as or different from "a" or "b"; and "m" represents 0 or 1:



(2)

wherein R_1 and R_2 are the same or different and each represents one of an alkyl group, an aralkyl group, an aryl group and a heterocyclic group, each of which may be substituted; and X represents one of an aryl group which may be substituted, a heterocyclic group which may be substituted and Z_3=CH-, wherein Z_3 represents a heterocyclic group which may be substituted,

wherein the recording layer further comprises at least one formazan-metal chelate compound comprising a metal and a formazan compound represented by following Structural Formula (4):

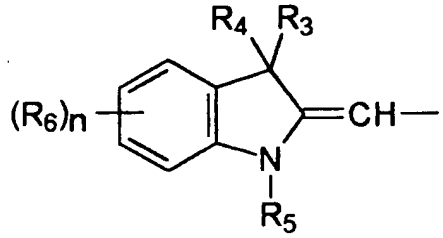


(4)

wherein Ring Y represents a nitrogen-containing 5-membered or 6-membered ring which may be substituted and which may be condensed with another ring; Z represents an atomic group constituting Ring Y; and A and B each represent a substituent, and

wherein the content of the formazan-metal chelate compound in the recording layer is from 20% by weight to 40% by weight.

Claim 7 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein X is represented by following Structural Formula (3):



(3)

wherein R_3 and R_4 are the same or different and each represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, where R_3 and R_4 may be taken together with an adjacent carbon atom to form a ring; R_5 represents one of a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group which may be substituted, an aralkyl group which may be substituted and an aryl group which may be substituted; R_6 represents one of a halogen atom, an alkyl group which may be substituted, an aralkyl group which may be substituted, an aryl group which may be substituted, a nitro group, a cyano group and an alkoxy group; and "n" represents an integer from 0 to 4, wherein, when n is 2, 3 or 4, "R_6"s may be the same or different and adjacent two "R_6"s may be taken together with an adjacent carbon atom to form a ring.

Claim 8 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein M is a trivalent metal.

Claim 9 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 8, wherein the trivalent metal is aluminum.

Claim 10 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the recording layer comprises two to six different types of the squarylium-metal chelate compounds.

Claim 11 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the total content of the squarylium-metal chelate compounds in the recording layer is from 50% by weight to 100% by weight.

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): The optical recording medium according to claim ~~12~~ 6, wherein the weight ratio of the

squarylium-metal chelate compounds to the formazan-metal chelate compound is from 90:10 to 50:50.

Claim 14 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the recording material has a thermal decomposition temperature of from 200°C to 350°C.

Claim 15 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the recording layer has a thickness of from 100 angstroms to 5000 angstroms (from 10 nm to 500 nm).

Claim 16 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the recording medium performs recording and reproducing by the application of light with a wavelength of 645 nm to 675 nm and the recording layer itself has a refractive index n of 1.5 to 3.0 and an extinction coefficient k of 0.02 to 0.3 within a wavelength region ±5 nm of the light for recording and reproducing.

Claim 17 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, wherein the substrate has at least one of a groove and a pit on its surface.

Claim 18 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, further comprising a reflective layer on or above the recording layer.

Claim 19 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 18, further comprising a protective layer on or above the reflective layer.

Claim 20 (original): The optical recording medium according to claim 6, which is for use in any one of CD-R, DVD+R and DVD-R media.